

**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Application Ranking Summary**

**Lower Arkansas WS - Cropland/GEN - W Q Q**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Lower Arkansas WS - Cropland/GEN - W Q Q		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas ( <a href="http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html">http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html</a> )?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the project reduce the amount of nutrients/pesticides/salt/selenium or other pollutants entering ground or surface waters?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the planned practice(s) promote water conservation on the contracted acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the project increase the diversity of desirable plants on grazing lands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the project improve the health of riparian and/or wetland areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the project improve habitat for a wildlife species currently categorized as a State or Federal T&E species, Federal Candidate or Proposed species, or State Species of Concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the planned practice(s) reduce irrigation induced or streambank erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is there a current COMPLETE resource management (RMS) conservation plan in place?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. If application is funded, will this be the applicant's first EQIP contract for this resource issue?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is this application a joint/cooperative agreement for the improvement of off-farm conveyance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Nutrient Management: Does the conservation treatment include new, improved, or enhanced application of nutrient management on at least 75% of the offered acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Nutrient Management: If Question 4 is "yes" will biosolid applications, including manure be made to land base at least 2 out of every 5 years with BMP's to address the proper application and management of the biosolids?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Sediment and Irrigation-Induced Erosion Management: Does the conservation treatment include practice implementation such as use of polyacrylamides to reduce sediment transport and irrigation-induced erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Multiple Environmental Impact: Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improve and enhance wildlife habitat as a part of the overall operation of the agricultural enterprise, including invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Alternative & Renewable Energy: Has at least one question in the National Priority ranking section been answered "yes," AND is the proposed project located in an area where the Wind Power Class or its verified equivalence is at least 3, AND will the wind turbine power plant serve as an alternative to an existing, fossil fuel dependent power source?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Alternative & Renewable Energy: Has at least one question in the National Priority ranking section been answered "yes," AND is the proposed project located in an area where the Photovoltaic array has full exposure to full sunlight, AND will the solar power plant serve as an alternative to an existing, fossil fuel dependent power source?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Identification of important and significant targeted resource areas of special emphasis and concern. (Answer only one 10a-10c, yes, if applicable)	
10. a. Are the offered acres located within the area of a Section 319, PL-566 Land Treatment Area or Bureau of Reclamation Water Conservation Project area, or other special project initiative?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. b. Are the offered acres not located within any of the above, but located within the confines of the	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

groundwater alluvium of the Arkansas hydrologic basin?	
Identification of the site specific resource concerns associated with excessive soil salinity. (Answer only one 11a-11d, yes, if applicable)	
11. a. Have any saline/sodic conditions of the offered acres been documented based on either a grided georeferenced salinity survey or on laboratory tests using stratified random sampling where the strata selection is based on factors such as, but not limited to crop appearance difference, or salt accumulation on the soil surface.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. b. Have any saline/sodic conditions of the offered acres been documented based on laboratory tests where samples a. were taken in a problem area based on factors such as, but not limited to crop appearance differences, or salt accumulation on the soil surface and compared to a non-affected area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. c. Have any saline/sodic conditions of the offered acres been documented based on a routine laboratory soil test?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. d. Is there a likelihood that a saline/sodic conditions exist on the offered acres based on crop appearance differences, or salt accumulation on the soil surface?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation treatment that will be implemented that results in on-farm improved irrigation efficiency. Points are based on the relative improvement in the irrigation efficiency from the benchmark and the planned condition using the USDA-NRCS Farm Irrigation Rating Index (FIRI). The relative improvement is equal to the difference between the benchmark FIRI and planned FIRI divided by the benchmark FIRI. (Answer only one 12a-12f, yes, if applicable)	
12. a. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark >0 but < 15?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. b. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark =>15 but <30?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. c. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark =>30 but <50?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. d. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark =>50 but <75?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. e. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark =>75 but <100?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. f. Is the improvement in the system relative efficiency (%) on the offered acres relative to the benchmark =>100?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Arkansas River Compact H-I Domain Measures-Tier 1: Conservation treatment that will be implemented associated with land-use conversion from irrigated to non-irrigated. (Answer only one 13a-13d, yes, if applicable)	
13. a. Will there be >0 but < =25% of the offered acres converted to permanent vegetative cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. b. Will there be >25% but <=50 of the offered acres converted to permanent vegetative cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. c. Will there be >50% but <=75 of the offered acres converted to permanent vegetative cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. d. Will there be >75% of the offered acres converted to permanent vegetative cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation treatment for implementing conservation practices associated with existing certified organic operations and transition organic operations. (Answer only one 14a-14b, yes, if applicable)	
14. a. Does the proposed project support organic transition (farming operation to be used while transitioning from conventional to organic production)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. b. Does the proposed project support existing certified organic production and implementation of an Organic System Plan (OSP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation treatment implemented off-farm that contributes to the overall improved irrigation efficiency. (Choose all that apply)	
15. a. Will the conservation treatment include actions that improve the conveyance efficiency of the delivery system to the farm?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. b. Is an off-farm subsurface/surface drainage system OR renovation to an existing off-farm subsurface/surface drainage system planned?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation treatment implemented associated with on-farm drainage and drainage water management contributing to the overall on-farm improved irrigation efficiency. (Answer only one 16a-16c, yes, if applicable)	

16. a. Existing on-farm subsurface drainage system rehabilitation is planned.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. b. Existing on-farm subsurface drainage system rehabilitation is planned PLUS additional on-farm subsurface drainage is planned.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. c. Rehabilitation of an on-farm surface drainage system is planned in combination with (a) or (b) above.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Arkansas River Compact H-I Domain Measures-Tier 2: Conservation treatment that will be implemented associated with crop rotational changes and management. (Answer only one 17a-17e, yes, if applicable)	
17. a. Mitigation measure, practice 340-Cover Crop: Annual land set-asides, including rolling field fallow, field borders, and sprinkler corners, single species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. b. Mitigation measure, practice 340-Cover Crop: Annual land set-asides, including rolling field fallow, field borders, and sprinkler corners, multi-species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. c. Mitigation measure, practice 340-Cover Crop: Annual land set-asides, including rolling field fallow, field borders, and sprinkler corners, pollinator, multi-species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. d. Mitigation measure, practice 328-Conservation Crop Rotation: Modification of crop rotation on entire land parcel where the system improvement is being proposed, having a single diversion/share apportionment where the average rotational annual ET is less than the benchmark, (a) adding or exchanging at least 1-year of a high consumptive use summer annual crop with a lower consumptive use, summer annual crop.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. e. Mitigation measure, practice 328-Conservation Crop Rotation: Modification of crop rotation on entire land parcel where the system improvement is being proposed, having a single diversion/share apportionment where the average rotational annual ET is less than the benchmark, (b) adding or exchanging at least 1-year of a high consumptive use, summer annual crop with a lower consumptive use, cool-season, winter annual crop.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Arkansas River Compact H-I Domain Measures-Tier 3: Special measures. (Answer only one 18a-18b, yes, if applicable)	
18. a. Mitigation measure, land conversion of existing irrigated land to permanent vegetation (Tier 1) for upland wildlife habitat.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. b. Mitigation measure, land conversion of existing irrigated land to permanent vegetation (Tier 1); enhancement and development of new pollinator habitat.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Arkansas Compact H-I Domain Measures-Tier 4: Salinity and irrigation water management measures. (The conservation plan must be based on a "farm planning unit" that is served by one block of water shares) (Answer only one 19a-19b, yes, if applicable)	
19. a. Mitigation measure, practice 610-Saline and Sodic Soil Management and 449-Irrigation Water Management: In making an improvement to a surface water irrigation system subject to Compact rules will the leaching fraction be managed to mitigate the change in amount or timing of the root zone drainage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. b. Mitigation measure, practice 610-Saline and Sodic Soil Management and 449-Irrigation Water Management: In combination with 449-Irrigation Water Management, will there be the implementation of at least one, on-field salinity management measure (610-Saline and Sodic Soil Mgt) for providing soil profile salt balance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
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**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>
<b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Signature Date:</b>